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EXECUTIVE GARDNER WELCOMES CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN SOLID WASTE PUBLIC FORUMS

FREDERICK, MD – During her <u>public information briefing today</u>, Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner announced that the Solid Waste "What's Next" Steering Committee will hold public forums to allow citizens to help shape the future of solid waste management in Frederick County.

"I'm excited to be kicking off this public outreach process," Executive Gardner said. "I want our citizens to be engaged and share their ideas about our next long-term solid waste strategy for Frederick County. Together we will actively examine all the ideas and alternatives available to us, such as resource recovery, composting, anaerobic digestion, zero waste initiatives and other options. My objective is to have an open, transparent, impartial process that balances diverse ideas and perspectives."

A series of "What's Next?" Solid Waste public forums guided by a professional facilitator will provide residents with neutral environments in which to discuss ideas. Each forum will begin with a presentation on the county's current solid waste management status. Then the work of brainstorming begins, with a majority of time at each session designed to solicit maximum participation from and dialogue with the citizens who attend.

The forums are scheduled for the following dates and locations:

- Monday, November 9, 7:00 p.m., Winchester Hall, 12 East Church Street, Frederick
- Thursday, November 19, 7:00 p.m., Oakdale High School, 5950 Eaglehead Drive, Ijamsville
- Monday, December 7, 7:00 p.m., Brunswick Fire Company, 1500 Volunteer Drive, Brunswick
- Monday, January 11, 7:00 p.m., Urbana High School, 3471 Campus Drive, Ijamsville
- Saturday, January 23, 10:00 a.m., Thurmont Town Hall, 615 East Main Street, Thurmont For more information, visit the Steering Committee's website at

www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/WhatsNext or call 301-600-2960.

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